

Summer Term Year 1 Information Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy Easter to you all! I hope you have all had a lovely 2 week break and made the most of the weather. I certainly have been enjoying it. I just wanted to write to you explaining a few things for the next coming weeks in regards to the home learning.

This term we would have been starting a new topic "Stomp and Roar" which is based around Dinosaurs. The work I have planned for the next coming weeks will be based upon this topic, however it won't be revealed to the children until Thursday of week 1 – so no spoilers please! As always the work is based upon skills and knowledge that have been taught so far in class so nothing should be new to them. However in case of a memory blip I have put helpful reminders on the daily tasks to hopefully prompt the children.

An English, Maths and Topic based activity have been planned for each day of the week, and I want to make it very clear – THERE IS NO EXPECTATION FOR IT ALL TO BE COMPLETED! It is what suits your home situation. The prospect of home schooling is very daunting and can cause a lot of stress. I have tried to eliminate as much stress as possible by providing opportunities for your children to maintain their existing knowledge rather than expand it. Once your children return to school their progress will continue. At the moment we are just further embedding what they already know ensuring those skills continue to be practiced ready for return to school. So please do not feel that you are not supporting your child and that your child is failing- THEY ARE NOT!!

Additionally I ask that you do allow your child to read daily whether it be with a school book or if you share a book together at home. Reading is the main crucial skill that we want you to focus on above all else. 10 minutes a day will make a huge difference and build your children's confidence as well as their fluency. I have attached the word lists that we use within the back of the children's reading books so you can access these as you wish. The phonics run through videos are still also available on the school website so your children can run through the speed sounds daily and complete some of the other phonics activities.

St Catherine's have now joined a program called 'Purple Mash' which is a site that can be accessed from home featuring our learning tasks. Work will be posted on there, and it enables the children to input their work so I can view it and leave feedback, however if you have not received your individual logins the work will also be put on the Year 1 page of the school website. Again there is no expectation for you to use 'Purple Mash' you can continue to use the home learning lined book and handwrite work instead of electronically it is whatever works for your family – so please do what suits you.

I will be continuing to upload story videos on my YouTube channel twice weekly for your children to enjoy. You can find these at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCw0Mx_ZTMtUhmVsf8XQlw?view_as=subscriber I will also continue to email your children as frequently as possible to check in – I have telephoned some of you if your email addresses are not on the school file. My email address for those parents who have not received an email from me is: RTreble@stcatherinesbridport.dorset.sch.uk so if you would like to get in contact please do, it would be lovely to hear from your children.

I would finally like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support. It really has been such a weird and difficult time but from what I am hearing you are all doing brilliantly at home and the children seem so happy and content. It's so lovely to hear of all the lovely things you are doing as a family – baking, crafts and play activities.

Stay safe and speak soon

Mrs Treble x